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Amendments to the Claims:

1-3 (canceled).

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1.
4. (previously presented): A method of embedding auxiliary information in original data, said method comprising:
receiving original data;
receiving auxiliary information, the auxiliary information being independent of the original data;
changing the auxiliary information based on the original data; and
embedding the changed auxiliary information in the original data.

2.
5. (previously presented): The method of claim 4 in which after said changing step, said method comprises encrypting the changed auxiliary information.

3.
6. (previously presented): The method of claim 5 in which an encryption key is stored in a database accessible by both an embedding device and a device operable to decode the embedded changed auxiliary information from the original data.

4.
7. (previously presented): The method of claim 6, wherein the original data comprises a plurality of segments, and the encryption key is stored within the decoding device and is the same for each of the plurality of segments.

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8-13 (canceled).

5.

14. (previously presented): The method of claim 4, wherein said embedding comprises steganographic embedding.

6.

15. (previously presented): The method of claim 4 in which changing the auxiliary information is based upon unchanged original data bits to be purposely skipped during said embedding.

7.

16. (previously presented): The method of claim 4 in which changing the auxiliary information is based upon original data bits which are not used for embedding when a PN sequence designates the not used original data bits as non-embedding locations.

8.

17. (previously presented): The method of claim 4, wherein the original data comprises a plurality of frames, and wherein said embedding includes placing the changed auxiliary information in slots located in at least one header associated with one of the frames.

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9.
18. (previously presented): The method of claim 4 wherein said embedding places the changed auxiliary information in a global header associated with the original data.

19-29 (canceled)

10.
30. (currently amended): A method of embedding auxiliary information in original data, said method comprising:
receiving original data;
receiving auxiliary information, the auxiliary information being independent of the original data;
changing the auxiliary information based on the original data. The method of claim 4, wherein said auxiliary information comprises plural-bits, and wherein said changing comprises changing at least a plurality of the plural-bits; and
embedding the changed auxiliary information in the original data.

11.
31. (currently amended): A method of embedding auxiliary information in original data, said method comprising:
receiving original data;
receiving auxiliary information, the auxiliary information being independent of the original data;
changing the auxiliary information based on the original data. The method of

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claim 4, wherein the auxiliary information comprises a total number of bits, and wherein said changing does not alter the total; and

embedding the changed auxiliary information in the original data.

12.

32. (previously presented): A method of enabling an action with embedded information, wherein the information is embedded according to the method of claim 4, said method comprising:

decoding the embedded information;

verifying the embedded information corresponds to the original data; and

enabling the action when both the embedded information corresponds to the original data and the auxiliary information permits the enabling.

13.

33. (previously presented): The method of claim 4, wherein the original data comprises a photograph, the changed auxiliary information is embedded within the photograph, and said method further comprises printing the embedded photograph on an identification document.

14.

34. (previously presented): The method of claim 33, wherein auxiliary information is changed by data within the photograph.

15.

35. (previously presented): The method of claim 33, wherein the original data further comprises information correlated with the identification document, and the

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auxiliary information is changed by at least one of: i) a portion of the photograph, ii) a portion of the correlated information and iii) a combination of a portion of the photograph and a portion of the correlated information.

^{16.}
36. (previously presented): The method of claim ¹⁵35, wherein the correlated information comprises at least one of a name and address.

^{17.}
37. (previously presented): The method of claim ⁸⁸37, wherein a redundant instance of the changed auxiliary information is placed in a plurality of frame headers respectively associated with the plurality of frames.

^{18.}
38. (previously presented): The method of claim ⁸37, wherein a first portion of the changed auxiliary information is placed into at least a first frame header, and a second portion of the changed auxiliary information is placed into at least a second and different frame header.

^{19.}
39. (currently amended): The method of claim ¹39, wherein the original data comprises plural bits, and said changing comprises changing the auxiliary data based at least in part on some of the plural bits. ~~38, wherein the first portion and the second portion comprise overlapping changed auxiliary information.~~